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(*b*) whether these rules were revised after the Papanasam Dam had been constructed;

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of the rules as corrected up to date, on the table of the House; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to revise these rules in the light of the present conditions?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) In 1907.

(*b*) No. Sir.

(*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the rules published in the *Tirunelveli District Gazette*, dated 2nd December 1907. If a copy is required, it can be obtained from the Public Works Secretariat.

(*d*) Amendments to certain clauses of the rules are under examination by the Local Officers and the question will be considered when they are submitted to Government.

Separate lavatories for women in court buildings

* 3133 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the construction of separate lavatories for women in all courts in the State?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The answer is in the negative.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : In view of the fact that more and more lady clerks are becoming members of the staff in courts and a lot of trouble is likely to arise on account of common lavatories, will the Government see that separate lavatories for women are constructed in all the courts in the State?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, the District Judge or the Presiding Officer has been authorized to provide separate convenience for women wherever necessity arises.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : After the introduction of prohibition, a large number of women and children attend the courts as accused and it is found necessary to provide separate latrines for women in the court premises. Will the Government see that separate latrines for women are provided at least in all the Magistrate's Courts? 12 noon

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Wherever necessity arises, it will be provided and proper instructions have been issued.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : With reference to the answer that the need has been met wherever it arose, may I point out to the Hon. Minister that there are no separate lavatories in the Egmore Police Court and in the Georgetown Police Court and that in the Saidapet Police Court there is no lavatory even for men?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: That is a common problem. But this question relates particularly to the problem of women.

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN: May I draw the attention of the Government to the fact that there are no water facilities even in the lavatories for men in the mufassal?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I think the Presiding Officers will take care and see that all these facilities are made available. If the lawyers also take some interest in the conveniences which have got to be provided, I am sure all these things could be easily rectified.

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN: Arising out of the answer that lavatories would be constructed wherever necessary, I may point out that I had written to the Government that a lavatory was necessary at the Chowghat Magistrate's Court, and that I had not received any reply so far. Will the Government look into the matter and see that a lavatory is provided there?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am not aware of the representation made by the hon. Member. If he has made such a representation, I am sure it is being attended to by the department.

Investigation for petroleum gas

* 3134 *Q.*—SRI C. MUTHIAH PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a team of experts from Bombay have investigated and found that petroleum gas is coming out at the rate of 240 cubic feet per hour at Neppathur in Sirkali taluk;

(*b*) if so, whether this investigation was conducted with the co-operation of the State Government; and

(*c*) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to utilise this gas for producing heat and mechanical energy?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir. The occurrence of gas in the village was investigated by the Geological Survey of India in 1946 and the investigation revealed that it was not petroleum gas. The occurrence is being examined again by the Geological Survey of India and by the officers of this Government.

(*c*) The matter is under examination.

SRI C. MUTHIAH PILLAI: அந்த கிராமத்திற்கு சுற்றுப்புறங்களில் சுமார் ஐந்து மைல்கள் விஸ்தீரணத்திற்கு மணிக்கு 240 கன அடிக்கு மேல் அந்த மாதிரியான பெட்ரோலியம் காஸ் வருவதாகவும் அதை வைத்துக் கொண்டு மின்சாரத்தை உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம் என்றும் 200 H.P. ஆலைகள் வேலை செய்யும் என்றும் பல நிபுணர்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் சர்க்கார் இதை உடனடியாக கவனித்து அந்த சுற்றுப்புறங்களில் எவ்வளவு விஸ்தீரணத்திற்கு அப்படி காஸ் வருகிறது என்று உடனடியாக பரிசீலனை செய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.